

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for automated processing of a search list provided by a remote user, and retrieving and delivering information corresponding to at least one item contained in said search list, comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving, onto a central server that services a plurality of remote users, a search list provided by the user, said search list comprising at least one item;

(B) forming a query at the central server based on the search list;

(C) periodically performing the following steps:

(i) initiating, from the central server, a search using the query on two or more information sources on the World Wide Web in order to locate information corresponding to each of said at least one item;

(ii) retrieving, with the central server, said information;

(iii) formatting said information into a common format using the central server;

(iv) ascertaining whether said information is current by comparing said information in the common format to information stored in a storage database in the common format, wherein the information stored in the database corresponds to results of previous searches using the query; and

(v) after step (iv), electronically delivering, using said central server, only said information ascertained to be current to the remote user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of initiating is performed automatically.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said search list may be selectively edited by said user at any time.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the selection of said two or more information sources to be searched are determined by said user and may be selectively edited by said user at any time.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said two or more information sources to be searched are determined independently by said user for each of said at least one item.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of initiating is performed at predetermined time intervals determined by said user, said predetermined time intervals capable of being selectively edited by said user at any time.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of electronically delivering is automatically performed via electronic mail.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct company.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct industry

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct job format.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said two or more information sources are public search engines.

12. (Original) A system for automated processing of a search list provided by a remote user, and retrieving and delivering information corresponding to at least one item contained in said search list, comprising:

a storage database that stores information in a common format, wherein information stored in the database corresponds to results of previous searches using a query; and

a central server that receives a search list provided by the user and comprising at least one item, services a plurality of remote users, forms the query based on the search list, and periodically initiates a search using the query on two or more information sources on the World Wide Web in order to locate information corresponding to each of said at least one item, retrieves said information, formats said information into a common format, ascertains whether said information is current by comparing said information in the common format to said information stored in said database in the common format,

and electronically delivers only said information ascertained to be current to the remote user.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said central server periodically initiates the searches automatically.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said search list may be selectively edited by said user at any time.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the selection of said two or more information sources to be searched are determined by said user and may be selectively edited by said user at any time.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein each of said two or more information sources to be searched are determined independently by said user for each of said at least one item.

17. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said central server periodically initiates the searches at predetermined time intervals determined by said user, said predetermined time intervals capable of being selectively edited by said user at any time.

18. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said central server electronically delivers said information via an electronic mail system.

19. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct company.

20. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct industry.

21. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein each of said at least one item corresponds to a distinct job format.

22. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said two or more information sources are public search engines.

23. (Original) A computer-readable medium tangibly embodying instructions which, when executed by a computer, implement a process comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving, onto a central server that services a plurality of remote users, a search list provided by the user, said search list comprising at least one item;

(B) forming a query at the central server based on the search list;

(C) periodically performing the following steps:

(i) initiating, from the central server, a search using the query on two or more information sources on the World Wide Web in order to locate information corresponding to each of said at least one item;

(ii) retrieving, with the central server, said information;

(iii) formatting said information into a common format using the central server;

(iv) ascertaining whether said information is current by comparing said information in the common format to information stored in a storage database in the common format, wherein the information stored in the database corresponds to results of previous searches using the query; and

(v) after step (iv), electronically delivering, using said central server, only said information ascertained to be current to the remote user.

24. (Original) A method for ascertaining whether information retrieved from the World Wide Web is current, comprising the steps of:

(A) initiating, from a central server, a search using a query on at least one information source on the World Wide Web in order to locate information corresponding to at least one item from which the query is based;

(B) retrieving, with the central server, a portion of said information;

(C) composing, on the central server, a hash of said portion; and

(D) ascertaining whether said information is current by comparing said hash to hashes stored in a storage database, wherein the hashes stored in the database corresponds to results of previous searches using the query.

25.-30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) A system for ascertaining whether information retrieved from the World Wide Web is current, comprising:

a storage database that stores hashes, wherein hashes stored in the database correspond to results of previous searches using a query;

a central server that initiates a search using the query on at least one information source on the World Wide Web in order to locate information corresponding to at least one item from which the query is based, retrieves a portion of said information, composes a hash of said portion, and ascertains whether said information is current by comparing said composed hash to the hashes stored in the database.

32.-37. (Canceled)